

National Environmental Justice Advisory Council 웹□□
Office 웹□□ Environmental Justice 웹□□
Environmental Protection Agency 웹□□
웹□□

February 12, 2014 웹□□

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Dear ladywoman 웹□□ and EJAC Members, 웹□□

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As representatives of people concerned about the chemical safety, the environmental community development and the environmental justice and health alliance for chemical policy reform, we are writing to you finally request the following assistance from the National Environmental Justice Advisory Council and the Environmental Protection Agency Office of Environmental Quality 웹□□ Environmental Justice: 웹□□

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1. An offsite meeting to support the EJAC and Department of Homeland Security in requesting a listening session with President Obama's executive order 13650 on Chemical Facility Safety and Security (E.O. 2013-0075) in West Virginia in February or March submission to the EJAC by Feb 15, 2014 웹□□
2. Providing a platform for the EJAC and other representatives to further discuss EJAC assistance with the chemical safety and water quality concerns with representatives from online and offline communities from the Environmental Justice Health Project on chemical policy.
3. Request that EPA provide scientific studies for coal slurry for constituents increase the community's knowledge of heavy metal chemical compounds they release through mining operations and judge impoundment methods taken to store tailings in Ring Water Units throughout the state of West Virginia. In particular, interested in determining the presence and concentration of MCHM and other chemicals in coal slurry solutions better understand how much chemicals finally present in concentrated impoundments and injections, and how much physical storage occurring in the ground and like -like storage facilities. ² 웹□□
4. Requesting that EPA release information that has been referenced in their reports, not provided despite repeated requests from the public, determining what MCHM and other chemicals are in the water storage tanks. ³ 웹□□
5. Submitting a formal letter of solidarity to the National Environmental Justice Project for the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) recognizing the need for continued water distribution in West Virginia.

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¹ See Attachment 1 for letter with signatures from WV residents requesting formal listening session with HSI. This letter will be submitted on February 13, 2014 웹□□ 웹□□

² See Attachment 2 for letter to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Washington, D.C., dated February 12, 2014, re: proposed rulemaking to implement Executive Order 13650.

³ See Attachment 3 for letter to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, Washington, D.C., dated February 12, 2014, re: proposed rulemaking to implement Executive Order 13650.

- requesting, what party available food to the distribution until community residents and health officials, including those from the Putnam Health Department, express confidence that their water supply and the water for pregnant women offered by the CDC.
6. Providing access to technical assistance through the Environmental Protection Agency Region other agencies and community groups to assist with organizing, testing, and community-based participatory research response to the chemical spills.
 7. Encouraging EPA to recommend industry to transition to inherently safer technologies and provide better federal monitoring, recognizing industries have consistently failed to solve problems and at the same time right these industries has filed lawsuits against the potential decision-making industry interests.⁵

Conclusion

We young people have continued commitment to environmental justice and stand for communities throughout the state, and our rapid response and assistance to the communities in the West Virginia counties that have been second to none in chemical leaking water crisis. We have worked to continue incorporation with EJAC and the EPA office of environmental justice over the coming months and robustly respond to this crisis.

Very Best,

Stephanie Tree
WV Community Development Hub

Maya Nye
People Concerned about Chemical Safety

Attachment 3

⁴ Attachment 3 details the contamination instance in West Virginia despite frequent requests from Governor.

⁵ See Attachment 3 for a Gazette article detailing the decision environmental community presentation from the mining registration process to responsible mining.